

THE MYSTERY OF
THE WAKING MANS DREAM
REVEALED

with a P.S.

BY

ALFRED EDWARD THISELTON

LONDON.

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1913.

THE WAKING MANS DREAME.

In the second volume of the Shakespeare Society's Papers (1845) appeared a reprint of 'The Waking Mans dreame. *The Fifth Event*,' which had been discovered as an isolated fragment by Mr. H. G. Norton, who "thought that the volume of which it formed part was a reprint of a black-letter collection of short comic stories in prose issued by Richard Edwardes, the dramatist, in 1570." A copy of this collection had been referred to by Warton as having been among the books of Collins, the poet, and as containing the story of the Induction of Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew.' (See Introduction to Professor Boas's edition of 'The Taming of a Shrew'. 1908). Mr. R. Warwick Bond, in his Introduction to the Arden Edition (1904) of Shakespeare's Play, controverts Norton's view and regards the discovery rather as a later development than as a reprint of the story in an earlier version, and Professor Boas adopts his opinion. Professor Neilson in the American Cambridge Shakespeare makes a passing reference to the matter remarking that some have thought that Edwardes's version "has survived in *The Waking Man's Dream*, an undated fragment of a lost book."

The curious thing is that it has taken so long a time to run to earth the volume from which Norton's discovery is an excerpt. Somebody (possibly Joseph Hunter) had been very near doing so, and may even have succeeded, as the sequel will show; but whether he actually did so or not, the result has apparently not yet been made public.

Through the kindness of Mr. George Excell I am the possessor of a volume, imperfect alas!, but having a special interest in this connection. It lacks the title page, which, however, has been supplied in manuscript, and runs as follows:—'Admirable Events Selected out of Foure Bookes Written in French by the Right Reverend John Peter Camus, Bishop of Belley Together with morall relations, written by the same Author And translated into English by S. Du Verger London Printed by Thomas Harper for William Brooks and are to be sold at his shop in Holborn in Turnstile Lane 1639.'

2.33
94th

In this volume 'The Waking Mans dreame. *The Fifth Event*' occupies pages 59 to 67 inclusive of 'The Admirable Events,' and not only the pagination but the matter corresponds with Norton's discovery as represented by Professor Boas.

Inside the cover of the volume is written the following note:—
"Induction of Sly to Shak. Taming the Shrew is the Fifth Event in Book I. Neither Bellay or translation noticed by commentators."
And some one has written in pencil on the fly-leaf "Hunter's Copy."

I do not possess a copy of the Shakespeare Society's Papers containing Norton's discovery, but it seems somewhat strange, if Norton did not mention that page 68 contains the beginning of 'The Old Man passionate in Love. *The Sixth Event*.' If he did not, it may possibly have been due to page 68 having been gummed to the cover: but even so, the omission to ascertain what was on page 68 would appear unaccountable.

ALFRED E. THISELTON.

Gen Res Baldwin May 34 Norman [Hutcheon critique]

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28 Millman Street

Bedford Row

London W.C.

8 December 1913

My dear Sir,

At last I have been able to refer
to Censura Libraria 2 edition, 1815,
vol 6 pp. 218 & foll. where I find, where
I find an account of Camus' Admirable
Events translated by S du Verger 1639
containing in extenso 'The waking
man's dream', ^{prefaced} with the following
remarks:—"The first book contains
" twelve stories or events... The following
" is from part the first and is the
" Induction story to Shakespeare's
" Taming the Shrew. It is evidently
" taken from Heuterus, but remains
" to be added to the list given by the
" Annotators." So after all Hobson
did not carry the matter a step further

(except by way of mystification) than the contributor to *Censura Literaria* had done many years before.

I have used the word "contributor" advisedly for the article is subscribed "J. H." which seems to point to Joseph Hunter. "J. H." says "a cancelled leaf in my copy contains a portion of an address from "the translator to "the reader" which precedes "the "author's epistle"". This is exactly what is the case in my copy in which as I said in my leaflet some one had written in pencil "Hunters Copy". The peculiarity in question does not appear in either of the British Museum copies both of which contain "The Translator to the Reader" in full. As far as I could see the two British Museum copies only differ in their title pages and in the fact that one has a table of errata at the

end and the other has not. My own copy
has this table.

It seems to me strange that the
staleness of Norton's "discovery" should
not have been exposed.

At any rate I am very much obliged
to you for suggesting I should refer
to *Censura Literaria*

Yours very respectfully.

Alfred E. Threlton

P. A. Daniel Esq^r

36 St Peter's Square

W.

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28 Millman Street

Bedford Row

London W.C.

12 August 1913

Dear Sir

I send you herewith a small
leaflet on "The Waking Man's
dream" not particularly import-
ant but perhaps helping to dispose
of some mystification

Yours very respectfully

Alfred R. Thielton

M. A. Daniel Esq^r

28 Millman Street

Bedford Row

W. C.

14 Sept 1913

My dear Sir

I have now got a copy of the
Shakespeare Society's Papers and
have roughly collated Norton's frag-
ment with my copy of du Verger

At the risk of boring you I send
you the result which does not
appear to me to be important

Norton says he gives a verbatim
et liberative copy, and doubtless
felt at liberty to do what he liked
with the punctuation.

I hope to compare the two British
Museum copies of du Verger in the
course of the next few weeks

Yours very respectfully

Alfred E. Shinwell

P. A. Daniel Esq^r

28 Millman Street

Bedford Row

London W.C.

14 September 1913

My dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for
your letter of the 10th inst.

I will certainly look up Censura
Liberaria when I get the chance, but
I am afraid my holiday is postponed
for the present. I shall be at the
British Museum tomorrow indeed,
but it will be purely on business, and
I shall have no time for any researches.

When I do get the opportunity, if I
should light upon anything that seems
of sufficient interest I will let you
know.

Yours very respectfully

Alfred E. Hillman

P. O. Daniel Esq.

Since my letter of the 19th Aug^r my copies of the
Arden Sh: have turned up; among them Warwick
Bonds ed. of the T of Shrew so that so far the mystery
of the Waking Mans Dream is cleared to me. But I haven't
got it all and don't think I ever had it.

I now want to know how the Waking mans Dream is
given in your titleless copy of the Admirable Events dated
in MS 1639. Is it that which Norton gives in his fragment
of a work in the Sh: Soc. Papers Vol. 2 and which Hazlitt reports
in his ed. of Collier's Shakespeare's Library?

Warton states that the "Admirable Events" was issued by
Richard Edwards in 1570. No copy since Colling's is known
to be in existence and as far as I have searched no copy
^{about} of that date is to be ^{anywhere} found in the Stationers' Register
either in Colliers Extracts or Robert's Report.

But I have found an entry in Arden (IV. 438) under
date, 3 Oct. 1638, which I think certainly heralds
your ed. of 1639.

I give it you in full and you will see that it is quite
in accordance with your MS. Title.

[Arden IV, 438]

My conclusion on it is that yours is the first ed. that there
never was an earlier one or had there been one of 1570
we should ^{have been told} ~~have been told~~ by which printer or publisher it was
imprinted to Parvules your publisher of 1639.

Both Warton & Norton I think were mistaken and this
entry in Arden gives great support to Warwick Bonds's conj-
that the Waking Mans Dream is of a later date than the
Taming of the Shrew.

Having written thus far, it occurs to me that I may
be sending coils to Newcastle. If so you have I presume
a wast paper basket

First an apology for not having sooner acknowledged
(Recd. 12 Dist.)
your Sheaflet - The Mystery of the Waking Man's Dream Re-
vealed; many thanks; I add it to my collection of your
notes which you have been good enough to send me from
time to time.

You do not tell me - at least I do not understand - in
what the mystery consists. I suppose therefore it would be
found in the Deans and Warwick Bond editions of the
Journing of the Shrew to which you refer at the beginning
of your article and there unfortunately I either do not
possess or cannot find; my books of which I have made
little use since I left Grays Inn have never yet got into
clever order.

The Waking man's Dream I have in Norton's article in
the second Vol. of the Shakespeare's Miscellaneous Papers 1845,
and in W. C. Hazlitt's ed. of Collier's Shakespeare's Library.
Vol IV (P. 51) p. 406 - a reprint of Norton.

Mr W. C. H. does add a mystery to the Waking Man's Dream by
noting it in ~~the~~ a Synoptical Table of Contents given at the
end of his Preface to his own six Vols of Sh. de. as the
Waking Man's Portent.

^{littleless}
Your volume was sent from Mr. Leach of the Admirable Events etc.
1639 would appear to be a reprint; Thomas Harper the
printer was in business relations with William Brooks
at that date. See Robert's Reprint of Stationer's Regis-
tration two

Norton says nothing of the contents of p. 68 (revised)
of his fragment

28 Millman Street
Bedford Row
London W.C.
1 September 1913

My dear Sir,

As I have been very busy I have not been able to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ult. before this.

I was very glad to have the extract from Ascher you kindly sent; and your own remarks are always of interest: so the proverb has no application with regard to your communications to me though I have thought it might well apply the other way about.

I realize that there is something more to be done with regard to the little piece of ground I tried to cover by my leaflet. I find that Boston's fragment as given

by Boas differs in some minutiae
of spelling and punctuation from
that of my copy of the Admirable
Events. When I get a copy of the
Shakespeare Society's Papers—which
I hope to do very soon—I intend to
collate Norton's fragment with
my copy but I suspect that the
variations are due to one or other
transcriber. There are at least
two copies of the Admirable Events
in the British Museum and there
may be some difference between
them. If I remember rightly one
has a list of errors and one not,
but I have only seen the former,
the other being at the binders. I
think the catalogue gave the
same year of publication for both.
Conceivably they might differ in other
respects.

It is very seldom that I can manage
to get to the British Museum un-
fortunately, though I live within
half a mile of it.

The fact that the translator was
a lady is not without interest to
me. One has a notion that authoresses
were comparatively rare in those
days.

Thanking you for your letter

I remain

Yours very respectfully

Alfred E. Thirkell

P. A. Daniel Esq

Page line

Norton

Du Berger.

3 18 serve
28 its
29 its
4 1 quaintnesse
12 superior
17 than
19 marvellous
24 on
34 and that all he
5 11 enchantment
20 Phillip.
23 countenance
25 asked
26 his tables
28 Canopie : he
6. 15 never lose
7 10 Philip
14 he
20 been
23 Philip
24 he
8 5 lieu
10 herself
27 fouore

serves
it's
it's
quaintnesse
Superiour
then
marvellous (?)
in
and that all that he
enchantments
Phillip
countenance
asked him
the tables
Canopie he
nevertheless
Phillip
hee
beene
Phillip
hee
lieu
her selfe
fouore.

Besides the above Norton makes many alterations in the punctuation, and in some cases ^{reduces} initial capitals to small letters. The above alteration on page 4 line 19 is doubtful because the "i" of du Berger is without a dot and may be a worn "l". The only erratum noted in my copy of du Berger is in connection with page 8 line 13 of Norton and corrects "setting" to "seeing".

A. E. T.

The above is a list of the
 names of the persons who
 have been admitted to the
 membership of the Society
 since the last meeting.

28 Millman Street

Bedford Row

London W.C.

22 August 1913

My dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for your kind letter of the 19th inst. re the waking man's dream.

Perhaps to take talk of the revelation of a mystery savoured of exaggeration, but the title was hit upon on the spur of the moment just when I was taking it to the printers and though it occurred to me that I might be regarded as a "num sort of fellow" to dignify such a matter with such a high-sounding description, I let it go. After all it does bring to light a small piece of fact that has hitherto been enveloped in haze.

But the great thing, of course, would
be to find a copy of the black-letter
collection by Richard Ewardes which
~~Wharton~~ Warton says was among the
books of the poet Collins.

I am told that Camus was not
born until 1582. The critics seem
to have been right in their views
as to the date of Norton's fragment
at any rate approximately so.

Yours very respectfully
Alfred E. Thielton

P. A. Daniell Esq^r



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